
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCRAP DEALERS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The price of copper has increased nearly seven
2 hundred per cent over the past five years. As a result, copper
3 theft has become a serious and rapidly growing crime. This new
4 type of theft has devastating effects on the entire community,
5 not just utility companies, businesses, and government agencies.
6 It causes phone outages, power outages, and rising construction
7 costs.

8 The cost of the stolen copper is often only a small
9 percentage of the victims' loss. Criminal copper scavengers can
10 cost a homeowner up to \$40,000 or more in damage to their home
11 for copper that will net the criminal approximately \$1,000.

12 The purpose of this Act is to deter copper theft by
13 requiring scrap dealers to include a thumbprint in the required
14 identification statement of all persons redeeming copper and to
15 maintain a record of transactions in copper.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 445, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding two new sections to part X to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 **§445- Copper; prohibitions.** No scrap dealer shall:

5 (1) Accept any amount of copper from a person under the
6 age of eighteen years; or

7 (2) Accept copper from a person unable to supply
8 verification of identity by a valid state-issued
9 identification card, driver's license, or federal
10 government-issued identification card; provided that
11 in addition to such verification, the scrap dealer
12 shall take the person's thumbprint, and retain the
13 thumbprint on file with the statement required under
14 section 445-233.

15 **§445- Record of transactions.** (a) Every scrap dealer,
16 or the agent, employee, or representative of the scrap dealer,
17 immediately upon receipt of any copper, shall record on a form
18 authorized by the chief of police in each county, the following
19 information:

20 (1) The name and address of the scrap dealer;

21 (2) The name, residence address, date of birth, and the
22 age of the person from whom the copper was received;



- 1 (3) The date and time the article was received by the
2 scrap dealer;
- 3 (4) The signature of the person from whom the article was
4 received;
- 5 (5) The Hawaii driver's license number, or if the person
6 does not possess a Hawaii driver's license, the number
7 of and description of any government issued
8 identification that bears a photograph of the person
9 from whom the copper was received;
- 10 (6) A complete and accurate description of the copper
11 received, including all markings, names, initials, and
12 inscriptions, particularly those indicating the owner
13 of the copper, if any;
- 14 (7) A reasonable estimate of the size, shape, weight, and
15 length of the copper received by the scrap dealer; and
- 16 (8) The price paid by the dealer for each item of copper.
- 17 (b) Copies of all completed forms or paper of information
18 required by this section, immediately upon receipt of the copper
19 by the scrap dealer, shall be forthwith transmitted via email or
20 by facsimile transmittal to the chief of police or to the chief
21 of police's authorized representative."



1 SECTION 3. Section 445-231, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending the definition of "scrap" to read as
3 follows:

4 "Scrap" means any secondhand or used metal, including
5 copper, except those used motor vehicle parts provided in
6 chapter 289."

7 SECTION 4. Section 445-235, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "~~§445-235~~ **Prohibitions; penalty.** Any person who violates
10 [~~sections 445-232 and 445-233,~~] any provision of this part or
11 any person who falsifies a statement required by section
12 445-233, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor."

13 SECTION 5. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
14 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
15 begun, before its effective date.

16 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Scrap Dealers; Copper; Copper Redemption Database

Description:

Requires scrap dealers to include a thumbprint of all persons redeeming copper in the required identification statement.
Requires scrap dealers to maintain record of transactions in copper and immediately email or fax it to police. (SD2)

